

55. (New) The method of claim 53, wherein the layer comprises a thermoset material.

56. (New) The method of claim 55, wherein the layer comprises a latex.

57. (New) The method of claim 53, wherein the step of forming a cover comprises casting a thermoset material about the core and layer.

REMARKS

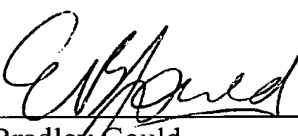
After entry of the claims presented herein, claims 1-57 are now pending in this application. Support for the new claims can be found throughout the specification and, therefore, no new matter has been entered.

Please enter these amendments prior to examination of this application.

A fee of \$360.00 is believed to be due for entry of this Preliminary Amendment, since the application now contains six independent claims and 27 claims in total. Please charge the required fee to Pennie & Edmonds LLP Deposit Account No. 16-1150.

Respectfully submitted,

September 29, 2000
Date



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